

FRENCH DRIVE BACK ON LAON PRINCE BACK ON LAON

WILSON SEEKS DRAFT IN ARMY DESPITE HOUSE

Balky Committee for Volunteer Plan; Senate's for Conscription... PRESIDENT EXERTS PERSONAL PRESSURE... Administration's Measure Loses in Lower House Test, 13 to 8... HOPE TO ENLIST 500,000... Executive Determined to Accept No Compromise—Democrats Fail Him

For Conscription For Volunteers... Kahn, Cal. Chairman Dent. Tilson, Conn. Fields, Ky. Greene, Vt. Quinn, Mo. Crago, Pa. Gordon, O. Olney, Mass. Shallenberger, Neb. Harrison, Va. Caldwell, N. Y. Lunn, N. Y. Wise, Ga. McKenzie, Ill. Nicholls, S. C. Garrett, Tenn. Anthony, Kan. Morin, Pa. Hull, Iowa. Davidson, Wis.

WASHINGTON, April 18. Without debate, the House this afternoon refused to agree to the \$7,000,000 bond issue with the amendments added by the Senate and sent the measure to conference. The conferees on the part of the House are Representatives Kitchin, Rainer, Dixon, Fordney and Gardner.

Selective conscription and the volunteer system for raising an American army are at grips among the nation's legislators today, three forces being engaged in the battle. The situation is this: The House Military Affairs Committee voted 13 to 8 against conscription and for trial of the volunteer plan. The Senate Military Affairs Committee voted 10 to 7 to support the Administration selective conscription scheme. President Wilson, determined that Congress shall pass his measure, visited the Capitol to exert personal pressure. The result of the House committee's deliberations was to recommend the adoption of a system to raise an army of 500,000 by an executive call for volunteers with permission for the President to enforce conscription later if necessary.

COMMITTEE OF HOUSE FOR VOLUNTEER TEST... WASHINGTON, April 18. The House Military Affairs Committee this afternoon adopted, by a vote of 13 to 8, a subcommittee report authorizing the President to issue a call for 500,000 volunteers and providing that he may at a future date resort to selective draft.

The committee late this afternoon agreed that the eligible ages both for volunteers and conscripts be raised from 19 to 25 and from 21 to 40 years in the army bill. The report, as it was adopted, is in plain defiance of President Wilson's wishes and of the advice of the general staff of the army, both of which desire to eliminate the volunteer idea. The eight members of the committee who voted against the adoption of the report are determined to bring in a minority report, dissenting from the committee's action, and force a fight on the entire issue when the bill reaches the floor. Previous to this recommendation the committee as a whole had voted 12 to 8 against conscription and for some form of volunteering. Framing of the exact report was left to a committee composed of Representatives Field, Shallenberger, Caldwell, Anthony and Hill. The eight members of the committee who voted in favor of the army war college conscription bill were Representatives Kahn, of California; Green, of Connecticut; Greene, of Vermont; Crago, of Pennsylvania; Olney, of Massachusetts; Harrison, of Virginia; Lunn of New York and McKenzie, of Illinois. The twelve who voted in favor of coupling volunteer enlistment with the army plan were Chairman Dent, Representatives Fields,

THE WEATHER FORECAST For Philadelphia and vicinity—Generally cloudy with unsettled tonight and tomorrow, with probably some light rain; moderate change in temperature; gentle variable winds.

GERMANS FORCED TO RETIRE TO WITHIN TWO MILES OF KEY POINT BY ENEMY'S ASSAULT

Haig Smashes Forward Toward Cambrai and Tightens Noose Around Lens and St. Quentin—Allies Advance on 100-Mile Front... Germans Lose 40,000, Men in Vain Attempts to Halt Nivelle Offensive—Anglo-French Pulverize Teuton Defenses, Assail Key Positions and Harass Foe by Countless Feints

The greatest battle of the war, greater in potentiality than the battle of the Marne, is in full swing. The battle line extends from Dixmude, in Belgium, to Rheims and the old Champagne battlefield, over a front more than 100 miles long. Driving forward with irresistible pressure, the armies of the Allies are drawing closer to the five key points of the Hindenburg line—Lens, Douai, Cambrai, St. Quentin and Laon. The loss of these towns—all strategic railway centers—would force the entire German line in France to give way, Allied military critics assert.

The British are concentrating their efforts around Lens, the extreme northern pivot of the Hindenburg line, from which they are only about two miles distant, and the positions between Cambrai and St. Quentin, defending the main line of the Germans in that section. The French are battering their way forward toward the Craonne plateau, which occupies the same position in relation to Laon, the southern pivot of the Hindenburg line, that Vimy ridge, commanding the plain of Douai, does in the north. Today the French have driven forward to within two miles of Laon, while the British are in a position to enter Lens and St. Quentin at any time they may desire. The number of prisoners already counted by the Anglo-French as a result of the great offensive is 30,000. The number of big guns captured has reached into the hundreds.

BRITISH TROOPS CLOSE IN ON CAMBRAI, LENS AND ST. QUENTIN LINES

LONDON, April 18. French forces smashed their way to within two miles of Laon today. British troops, coincidentally, began closing in about Cambrai, while maintaining their stranglehold pressure about St. Quentin and Lens. The fighting along the whole of this vast front was bitter. French and British guns roared unceasingly, literally pulverizing the German defenses. The French, apparently, were the most active in the day's fighting. The official report revealed another thrust "in Champagne"—presumably at a different point from where General Nivelle's men have registered their brilliant successes in the last few days, forcing the Germans behind their second-line defenses. Chivry, taken in the French sweep around Laon, is only two miles distant from that city. The other points mentioned by the French official statement show an encircling movement about Laon that must force it fall into the hands of the French very shortly. Lens and St. Quentin are both so far encircled by British forces now that their capture will be easy at any time the British desire. In the meantime, however, the British commander-in-chief is battering away toward Cambrai. Field Marshal Haig's greatest thrust today is toward Cambrai. Capture of the village of Villers Guislain, nine miles south of Cambrai, was reported by the British commander-in-chief. Improvement of the British positions around the Laoncourt, about the same distance to the west of this pivotal point in the Hindenburg line, was likewise achieved, he said. Captures by the British army since April 9 in its great push reached the total of 14,000 men and 227 guns today. There are still more prisoners streaming back constantly from the front. The Germans are fighting desperately against this steadily applied pressure. But against the prisoners exhibit a loss of courage to the face the tremendous hell of the British artillery fire that must be giving the German General Staff a most serious concern. Russian soldiers are fighting with the French in this terrific drive against the Germans in Champagne. Since the British push opened on April 9, the Anglo-French forces have captured 20,000 German prisoners, counting the 2500 taken by General Nivelle's men in their latest attack. All reports agree that the engagement that developed on the line from Soissons to Auberville is one of the fiercest since the beginning of the war. During the last twenty-four hours the French have been driving home their attacks in storms of shells and snow. It is estimated that the Germans concentrated about twenty divisions (400,000 men) along this front and the most determined efforts were made to check the terminated efforts were made to check the

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WHAT MAY HAPPEN IN BASEBALL TODAY

Table with columns for American League and National League, listing teams (Cleveland, St. Louis, Chicago, etc.) and their records (Wins, Losses, Runs, Hits, Errors).

HEAVY FIRING OFF CAPE COD; MAY BE FIGHT

Din of Shots Heard 30 Miles From Boston Harbor... WARSHIPS BELIEVED IN U-BOAT CLASHES... Reports of Cannonading Come From Three Separate Stations... DETAILS NOW SOUGHT... Operations of Submarines Thought to Have Drawn Naval Fire

WASHINGTON, April 18. The Navy Department shortly before noon today received an official report from Boston saying gunfiring had been heard off Provincetown this morning. The Navy Department gave out the following in connection with the report: Coast Guard stations along Cape Cod reported this morning to the district commander at Boston having heard firing of heavy guns in rapid succession at sea and to northward of the station. The reports came in quick succession and were heard at 9:41 this morning. Each of the three stations transmitted this report to the officers in charge of the district.

BOSTON, April 18. No further facts regarding the firing at sea have been received at the navy yard since the first telephoned reports this morning. What action is being taken to run down the reports in the way of naval movements cannot be stated because of the strict censorship of naval news.

BOSTON, April 18. Heavy firing due north of Provincetown was reported today by three coast guard stations. Shipping all along the coast was notified by wireless of a probable naval engagement in that vicinity. Requests for a full report were made at once by Captain Bush, of the Charlestown Navy Yard. The firing took place at 9:40 a. m. and continued for some time. Provincetown is adjacent to Cape Cod, on the Massachusetts coast, about forty-eight miles southeast of Boston. It lies on the southern entrance to Massachusetts Bay and near the steamship line for ships entering and leaving Boston. The firing was reported by the Race Point coast guard. A moment after that report was received the Peaked Hill Bar station wired giving similar information. A minute after the Peaked Hill Bar report the operator at the High Head station got into communication with the navy yard with a similar story. The engagement was reported north of the extreme point of Cape Cod. While the firing was distinct and of great volume all vessels engaged were below the horizon. Immediately after the receipt of the report.

HARD LUCK TRAILS "A'S" AND NOYES LOSES, 2-0

Mack's Youngster Hurls Great Game, but Breaks Go Against Him—Leonard Supreme... Noyes's Support Lacked

Table showing baseball game results for Boston Red Sox vs Athletics, including player statistics like Hooper, Barry, Hoblitzel, Lewis, Walker, Schanz, Moff, Thomas, Leonard.

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL... An unearned run scored by the Red Sox in the eighth, followed by a regular score in the eighth, were enough to put the Athletics...

LATEST SPORTS

BASEBALL SCORES

BOSTON 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0-2 6 2... ATHLETICS 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-0 7 2... Leonard and Thomas; Noyes and Schanz. Owen and Dincen.

PHILLIES... BOSTON... POSTPONED—RAIN

AMERICAN LEAGUE... WASHINGTON 4 0 0 0 0 1 0... NEW YORK 0 2 2 0 1 1 0... Gallia, Ayers and Henry; Shocker and Nunamaker.

CLEVELAND 1 0 0 1 0... ST. LOUIS 0 0 0 2... Klepfer and O'Neill; Davenport and Hale.

CHICAGO... DETROIT... POSTPONED—RAIN

NATIONAL LEAGUE... NEW YORK 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0-3 9 0... BROOKLYN 1 0 0 0 0 3 0 0 X-4 9 2... Sallee and McCarty; Coombs and Miller.

ST. LOUIS 0 1 0 0 0... CHICAGO 2 1 1 2 0... Steele and Snyder; Douglas and Elliott.

PITTSBURGH 1 1 1 1 0 0... CINCINNATI 0 2 0 0 0 0... Mamaux and Fischer; Sanders and Wingo.

OTHER GAMES

CENTRAL HIGH 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 0-3 3 4... PENN FRESH 0 3 3 1 1 0 3 X-11 6 4... CONWAY HALL 0 0 0 0 0 0... MERCERSBURG 1 1 1 0 1 0... SWARTHMORE 0 0 0 0 0 2... LEHIGH 2 0 0 0 0 1

RIOTING IN BRAZILIAN TOWN; 270 GERMAN HOUSES MOBBED

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 18.—Mobs attacked 270 German houses in Porto Alegre during the night, burning many, according to dispatches received here today. The number of dead and wounded is not known. The rioting started when the proprietor and employees of a German hotel fired upon a crowd during an anti-German demonstration. A veritable reign of terror in retaliation for the shooting followed. The police were helpless to cope with it.

HUGE ORDER FOR MACHINE GUNS

NEW YORK, April 18.—The Driggs-Seabury Ordnance Company this afternoon announced closing of orders for between 3000 and 4000 Lewis machine guns for the army and navy in addition to the 2000 gun order for the marine corps announced a few days ago.

TWO HURT WHEN TROLLEY CAR HITS WAGON

A man and a boy were injured, the boy seriously, late this afternoon when a northbound Ridge avenue car crashed into the rear of a wagon at Ridge avenue and Poplar street. Samuel Swartz, eleven years old, who was hanging on the rear of the wagon, was thrown off along with the wagon wheel which crushed his leg so badly it had to be amputated. Thomas Ealy, twenty-eight, 7104 Ridge avenue, the teamster, was thrown out and suffered contusions. Both were taken to St. Joseph's Hospital.

DOYLESTOWN TO DISTRIBUTE FREE CABBAGE PLANTS

The city of Doylestown will give 10,000 cabbage plants to its residents to raise in their back yards this summer, according to information received in this city this afternoon at the Committee of Public Safety headquarters. The grown cabbages will be given to the city of Philadelphia next fall.

SENATE PASSES BILL LEGALIZING ALLIED RECRUITING

WASHINGTON, April 18.—The Senate this afternoon passed unanimously the Culberson bill, legalizing recruiting by the Entente Allies in the United States.

GERMANS OPEN COUNTER-OFFENSIVE IN MACEDONIA

BERLIN, April 18.—The Germans have opened a counter-offensive in Macedonia, driving the French from their positions on a front more than half a mile wide along the Cerna Stena, the War Office reported today.

U. S. MAY CONCENTRATE ON AEROPLANE BUILDING

LONDON, April 18.—Announcement was made in Commons this afternoon that the United States Government is considering concentrating on the building of aeroplanes for the Allies.

JOHNSON HOME AND ART WORKS LEGACY TO CITY

Noted Attorney's Will Guards Against Control by Politicians... CALLS FOR "NO JOBBERY" Curator to Be Chosen by Business Men—Estate Helps Pay Upkeep

Main Points in Will of John G. Johnson

JOHN G. JOHNSON leaves his priceless art works and his home, at 510 South Broad street, to the city of Philadelphia. Art to be housed in the residence. Will requires that city accept gift within six months and make proper provision for maintenance of collection. If this is not done, collection goes to Metropolitan Museum, New York. Rest of his estate is held in trust for his relatives. If no children survive General Morrell and Mrs. Morrell, the estate will finally go to the University of Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania Company for Insurances on Lives and Granting Annuities is executor. Mr. Johnson foresees single Council body at head of city. Wants "no jobbery" in picking curator. Estimates museum upkeep at \$25,000 a year.

John G. Johnson's will gives his priceless art collection to the city of Philadelphia. The will was admitted to probate today. With the collection there also is bequeathed his home at 510 South Broad street, where he directs the collection shall be housed, the entire property to be converted into a museum for the public. The city is required within six months to make formal acceptance of the bequest and to enter into a contract to maintain it with the help of the executor and trustee named by Mr. Johnson—the Pennsylvania Society for Insurances on Lives and Granting Annuities. If the city fails to do this the Metropolitan Museum in New York becomes the beneficiary.

CITY WILL ACCEPT

There is no doubt though that the city will eagerly accept the gift and the trust that goes with it. The Mayor and Art Jury members have already expressed their delight. The will of the greatest lawyer in America makes especially interesting observations. Mr. Johnson, in writing his will, specified how arrangements for the public use of the museum should be made. He says the "President of Councils (of Select and Common, if there shall be two bodies) . . . Thus when he wrote the document he anticipated the time when the bicameral system would be abolished. The other interesting observation is made when he tells how he wants the curator picked. He says very definitely, "I want no jobbery in this selection."

NOT FOR POLITICIANS

City officials will have no part in selecting a curator. The duty is imposed only on the trustees, who will advise with art bodies only and not with politicians. Mr. Johnson's widely known trait of reticence is as prominent in his last will and testament as it was in his life. He leaves entirely unconsidered the question of what the public museum which will grow out of his home is to be called. The trustees doubtless will have to settle that question. It is almost certain that his name will be the basis of whatever is finally settled on.

A formal statement issued by the law firm of which Mr. Johnson was the senior member follows: "The will gives the house, 510 South Broad street, and all the pictures and works of art to the city of Philadelphia, to be maintained as a public museum. The city accepts within six months and enters into an agreement with the executors to provide for the care and maintenance of the collection. The curator is to be appointed by the Pennsylvania Company for Insurances on Lives and Granting Annuities, which is named as executor and trustee of the will, and a committee to consist of the president of the Academy of the Fine Arts, the president of the Pennsylvania Company for Insurances on Lives and Granting Annuities, and two other persons."

TARNOWSKI TO SAIL SOON

Austrian Diplomat Expected to Leave U. S. in Ten Days... WASHINGTON, April 18.—Count Adam Tarnowski, recalled Austrian Ambassador to the United States, with his embassy suite and all Austrian consuls in this country, will sail from New York within the next ten days, the State Department indicated today. It is planned they shall take ship with the German Minister to China, who is to return home through this country after China's break with his Government. The British Commissioner of War declared that the Stars and Stripes on that fly with the British flag on all buildings as a tribute to the Allies.

U. S. Flag to Fly Over Westminister

LONDON, April 18.—For the first time in history a foreign flag will fly with the Union Jack of England over the House of Commons in Westminster on Friday. The British Commissioner of War declared that the Stars and Stripes on that fly with the British flag on all buildings as a tribute to the Allies.

May Return to U. S.

SHARON, Pa., April 18.—The current term of the Pennsylvania State Senate will return to Harrisburg on Monday, May 14, according to the Pennsylvania State Senate.

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